

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 9-11 are in the application. Claim 6 has been withdrawn. Claims 7-8 have been rewritten as new claims 9 and 10. Claim 11 has been added. Applicant has rewritten claims 7 and 8 as new claims 9 and 10 to further clarify the invention. New claim 11 has been added. New claim 11 claims a piston formed by the process claimed in new claim 9. No new matter has been added.

As stated above, Applicant elects Group II, and respectfully traverses the requirement for restriction for the following reasons:

It is believed that any search for the invention embodied in Group II would necessarily include a search of the inventions embodied in Group I. Thus, the simultaneous search for all of the Groups is believed not to constitute an unreasonable search for the Patent Examiner.

In addition, it is believed that the objectives of streamlined examination and compact prosecution would be promoted if a search were conducted simultaneously for all of the species. Also, the necessity of filing multiple patent applications in this case does not serve to promote the public interest because

of the extra expense that is involved, in filing fees and examination costs, as well as the burden upon the public due to the necessity of searching through a multiplicity of patent files in order to find the complete range of subject matter claimed in several different patents that could otherwise be found in one issued patent only.

Applicant reserves the right to file divisional applications for the non-elected invention.

For all these reasons, it is respectfully requested that the restriction requirement under 35 U.S.C. §121 be withdrawn, and that an action on the merits of all the claims be rendered.

Respectfully submitted,
GOTTFRIED SCHNAITMANN

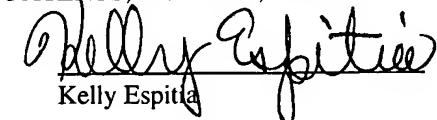


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